

Epi Update for Friday, May 31, 2024

CENTER FOR ACUTE DISEASE EPIDEMIOLOGY (CADE)

Iowa Department of Health and Human Services

Items for this week's Epi Update include

- CDC U.S. mpox surveillance update
- In the news: Third person in US tests positive for bird flu in connection to outbreak in dairy cattle
- Infographic: Mpox vaccines – Do you need one?
- Meeting announcements and training opportunities

CDC U.S. mpox surveillance update

A recent CDC MMWR highlights U.S. mpox surveillance following the global outbreak that started in 2022. Two clades of mpox are known to cause human illness: clade I, which is endemic in Central Africa and is currently increasing in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and clade II, which caused a global outbreak starting in 2022. Clade II is considered less severe than clade I and is typically self-limiting. However, immunocompromised persons, especially those with advanced HIV (i.e., CD4 T lymphocyte cell count <200 cells/mm³), have experienced more severe infections.

Clade II mpox continues to circulate at low levels in the U.S., but no cases of clade I have been reported. National mpox case counts peaked at approximately 3,000 per week summer 2022, then sharply declined and remain substantially lower. Following the peak, during October 1, 2023 - April 30, 2024, a total of 1,802 probable and confirmed mpox cases were reported to by 42 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. National counts have remained steady, with an average of 59 cases per week.

A total of 30 mpox cases have ever been reported in Iowa, with the last case being reported in early 2023.

Key information for U.S. mpox cases, October 1, 2023 - April 30, 2024:

- 94% were men, and 90% identified as gay or bisexual
- 62% were persons aged 25 - 40 years
- 34% identified as Hispanic or Latino, 32% as White, 25% as Black or African American, 3% as Asian, 2% as multiracial, and 4% as another race, including American Indian or Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- 48% were HIV-positive
- 10% were hospitalized, 68% of whom were HIV-positive

Since October 2023, five patients with mpox have died in the U.S.

The majority of persons at risk for mpox exposure remain unvaccinated. Among cases who reported vaccination status, 67% reported no vaccination against mpox, and 33% had received at least one dose of vaccine. Of those receiving at least one dose, only two cases (1%) were hospitalized during their illness.

CDC recommends that persons at risk for mpox exposure who have not previously recovered from mpox, receive 2 doses of JYNNEOS vaccine and complete the 2-dose vaccination series, irrespective of time since initial dose or route of vaccination.

To view the full CDC MMWR, visit www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/73/wr/mm7320a4.htm?s_cid=mm7320a4_w.

In the news: Third person in US tests positive for bird flu in connection to outbreak in dairy cattle
www.cnn.com/2024/05/30/health/bird-flu-michigan-third-human-case/index.html

Infographic: Mpox vaccines – Do you need one?

MPOX

Mpox Vaccines - Do you need one?

Get the vaccine if you

- ✓ Are a gay, bisexual, or other same-gender loving man who has sex with men or are transgender, gender non-binary, or gender-diverse.
- ✓ Have had sexual or intimate contact with someone who may have mpox. Get vaccinated as soon as possible after exposure, regardless of your sexual or gender identity.

AND if you, in the last 6 months, have had or expect to have

- ✓ One or more sexually transmitted infections
- ✓ A weakened immune system because of another illness, like HIV
- ✓ Sexual or intimate contact with a person who is at risk of mpox
- ✓ Anonymous sexual or intimate contact, or more than one sexual partner

Get both doses unless

- ✗ You had a severe allergic reaction (such as anaphylaxis) after getting your first dose of the JYNNEOS vaccine.

Two doses provide the best protection

DOSE 1 → 4 WEEKS → DOSE 2 → 2 WEEKS → Max protection

If you don't want the vaccine given in your forearm, you can get it in your upper back or shoulder instead.

CDC

www.cdc.gov/mpox

To view in full size, visit www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/mpox/pdf/mpox-vaccines.pdf.

Meeting announcements and training opportunities

Join the Iowa Institute for Public Health Practice, Research and Policy and Iowa HHS on Wednesday, August 21 for the fifth annual virtual learning collaborative on childhood lead poisoning prevention to advance childhood lead poisoning prevention through collective impact. The event will highlight programs and services throughout Iowa that have been successful in implementing strategies for addressing and preventing childhood lead poisoning. The goal is to bring together all partners and sectors that are working toward eliminating lead poisoning in Iowa. Keynote speaker Dr. Bruce Lanphear, preventive medicine physician and professor at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver, British Columbia will speak on *The Enduring Legacy of Lead Toxicity - Why a Little Lead is Too Much*. CEUs are available. For more information and to register, visit iphprp.org/services/childhood-lead-poisoning-prevention/learning-collaborative/2024-learning-collaborative/.

Have a healthy and happy week!
 Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology
 800-362-2736